



Meyerland Performing & Visual Arts Middle School 2025-2026 Visual Arts Handbook

Welcome to VISUAL ARTS at MPVA! Congratulations on being a part of one of the most advanced and award-winning art programs in the city. We are happy that you chose MPVA to learn the most you can about the visual arts and all it has to offer. We are excited to teach you and guide you to be the best artist you can be.

Important Note

- The school reserves the right to select pieces of a student's artwork per school year to become part of its permanent art collection, which enhances the program and inspires the students.
- Magnet students are expected to complete a minimum of six (6) specific assigned projects over the summer as your Magnet Art class preparation. Assignments **WILL** be graded within the first two weeks of the new school year.
- Magnet students should remain in good standing following Magnet and School policies.
- Magnet students are expected to help promote the program at school and community events, including attending art exhibitions and relevant art competitions.

Grading Policy

Grades are earned according to the following:

- Mastery of concepts and techniques
- Following directions
- Class participation
- Good craftsmanship
- Completion of the assignments
- Respect and care for artwork, sketchbooks, and portfolios
- Turn in assignments on time!
- Fulfillment of special projects; art competitions, art shows, etc.

Grading Scale

Classwork – 45%
Projects/Products – 35%
Assessments – 20%

**The Grading Scale is used by the entire Fine Arts Department; however, the category descriptions will vary by each individual teacher and its unique course.

***Please understand that we try to enter grades in Power School as quickly as possible, but often, students work on projects for a good portion of a 6-week period and grades are not issued until a result can be evaluated.**

This can cause grades to be entered in Power School later in the grading period. We always encourage students to talk to their teachers about their progress if they are unclear on how they are doing. Teachers issue individual progress reports to alert them and their parents when there is a potential problem.

Sensitive Content: Please note that the visual arts content may include sensitive topics. Fine arts instruction cannot be rigorously explored without considering a diverse cultural scope from around the world. We encourage respect, empathy, and awareness of the emotional impact these topics may have on students.

Program Cost/Supplies

The Magnet Program Support Fund for Visual Arts is \$75.00 per student, this includes art materials, field trips and general supplies. This is managed by the MPVA PTO, and payment can be made via the PTO website: <https://mpva.membershiptoolkit.com/login-form?r=%2>

Donations: **Please contact us if you have specialty supplies that you would like to donate to the class or department!

- Sanitizing Wipes / Hand Sanitizer
- Paper Towels
- Kleenex
- Newspaper, magazines

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Honor your commitments. As a magnet student, expectations are high.
- Complete all assignments on time as we follow the late assignment policy.
- Sketchbooks must be brought to class daily and will be graded.
- Be prepared to give your best in class. Be attentive and ready.
- Do not criticize others' artistic abilities and be respectful with your comments.

We look forward to an exciting and artistic year! If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Christina Gonzalez, Rm 219 *HYPERLINK*

"mailto:cgutier6@houstonisd.org" cgutier6@houstonisd.org

Courtney Adams, Rm 221 *HYPERLINK*

"mailto:cadams6@houstonisd.org" cadams6@houstonisd.org

Keelin Burrows, Rm 222 *HYPERLINK*

"mailto:keelin.burrows@houstonisd.org"

keelin.burrows@houstonisd.org